

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Clement W. Anderson was born in Hitchcock, South Dakota, on December 27, 1918, the oldest son of John and Dagmar Anderson. He loved to hunt, fish and play sports while he was attending school in Hitchcock; and,

Whereas, There were few places to work during the 1930s, so Clement sought work picking corn in Minnesota. He joined the CC camps working in the Black Hills, and worked in the Montana and California copper mines; and,

Whereas, While he was working in California in 1940, Clement was drafted into the United States Army. He served from Spink County, South Dakota, and served state side until December 1941. World War II broke out and he served overseas. In June of 1943, Clement was sent to the South Pacific; and,

Whereas, During the Kwajalein Campaign on January 31, 1944, Private Anderson was with a patrol that was ambushed. According to the Silver Star citation, "He crawled forward under heavy fire to deliver machine gun ammunition and assist in operating the machine gun until the enemy attacked the position with powerful offensive grenades. Private Anderson located the hidden enemy, dueled with them at a distance of 10 yards and directed the machine gun until enemy resistance was wiped out. This action was a determining factor in bringing the fight to a speedy conclusion"; and,

Whereas, PVT Anderson was killed by enemy rifle fire on February 5, 1944 while displaying gallantry when assaulting a Japanese dugout. The Silver Star citation continued, "Private Anderson's heroism, aggressiveness and cool thinking were an inspiration to his unit throughout the action". He also received the Purple Heart and numerous other medals and ribbons during his military service; and,

Whereas, Private Clement W. Anderson answered his country's call with courage and honor, giving his life for our freedom; and,

Whereas, A ship will be named the PVT *Anderson* in honor of Private Clement Anderson on February 21, 2005 and will be christened at Kwajalein Atoll, the island where his life was lost:

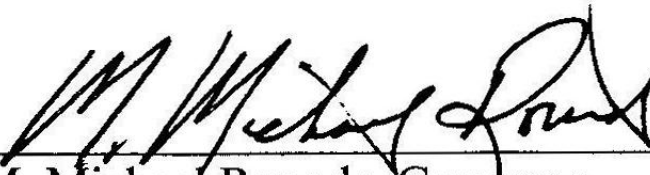
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 21, 2005, as

Private Clement W. Anderson Day

in South Dakota, and I join with his family and the U.S. Army in honoring his service and sacrifice for the state of South Dakota and the United States.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State